GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2046
ANSWERED ON:14.03.2017
Drip Irrigation
Hemamalini Smt.

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that more area can be irrigated by drip irrigation than that can be irrigated by flow irrigation, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the yield of various crops using drip irrigation with water soluble fertilizers is higher than that of the conventional fertilizers in the country, if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the import of water soluble fertilizers during the last three years and the current year, country-wise;

(d) the details of the Indian companies producing water soluble fertilizers; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to promote drip irrigation and indigenous production of the water soluble fertilizers in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

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(a): Yes, Madam, More area can be irrigated by adopting drip irrigation than that by flow irrigation as the water use efficiency of drip irrigation is as high as 80-95% where as it is only 30-35% in conventional/flow irrigation. There is upto 40% saving of irrigation water under drip irrigation.

(b): Use of drip irrigation along with fertigation technologies (use of water soluble fertilizers) increases water and nutrient use efficiency which results in higher crop productivity. As per report (2004) of Task force on Micro Irrigation, the yield details of various crops using drip irrigation are as under:-

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S. No Crop Average Productivity, MT/ha
Without Drip With Drip
1. Widely Spaced Crops suitable for Drip Irrigation 4.00 7.50
2. Closely Spaced Fruit crops suitable for Drip Irrigation 40.00 70.00
3. Crops suitable for Sprinkler Irrigation 2.00 2.75

(c): The details of import of water soluble fertilizers during the last three years and current year is given at Annexure-I.

(d): The names of Indian companies producing water soluble fertilizers are at Annexure-II.

(e): Government of India is implementing the Centrally Sponsored Scheme, Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY). Promotion of Micro Irrigation (Drip & Sprinkler Systems) is an integral part of the scheme under "Per Drop More Crop" component.

Besides, to encourage more use of water soluble fertilizers, seventeen water soluble complex fertilizers have been incorporated in the Fertilizer (Control) Order, 1985. The general specifications of 100% water soluble mixture of fertilizers have also been specified under the Fertilizer (Control) Order, 1985. Besides this, the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) imparts training, organizes field demonstrations to educate farmers on advantages of use of water soluble fertilizers.